



Georgia Board of Nursing
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REENTRY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is a reentry program?

A reentry program is an individualized combination of 40 hours of study relevant to nursing and 160 hours of supervised nursing practice. It is a plan based on the "Guidelines For the Reentry Process" that may be submitted by an employer or prospective employer.

As an exception to an employment setting, you may want to check with local colleges, universities, technical programs or hospitals for any existing reentry programs. Please review the contents of this package in its entirety for a suggested approach to successful reentry into nursing. For more information contact:

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2. How do I approach a potential employer about offering a reentry program?

Nurses have been most successful with the following approach:

- a. Decide on the area of nursing in which to practice and the location desired.
- b. Seek employment and request/ask the prospective employer to provide an orientation that will include 40 hours of study and 160 hours of supervised nursing practice.
- c. Be flexible.

The 40 hours of study may be initiated on your own but must include current CPR certification and study of the Nurse Practice Act and Rules and Regulations of the Georgia Board of Nursing.

NOTE: The plan for the 40 hours of study must be reviewed by Board staff prior to its beginning. A temporary permit must be issued prior to beginning RN employment (including orientation and supervised nursing practice). For more detailed information, refer to the "Guidelines" and Rules and Regulations, Chapter 410-7-.01 (4), Licensure by Endorsement, and Chapter 410-8-.01 (3) and (4), Reinstatement of License, as needed.

3. Is it required that I complete a reentry program in a hospital?

No. A reentry program may be completed in any facility that allows for nursing practice as a registered nurse under **the supervision of another registered nurse.**

4. What if I am not ready to return to work?

You may wish to delay licensure until such time as you are ready to complete a reentry program and reenter the nursing work force. Or, you may wish to complete a reentry program through a college/university of technical school program.

5. What documentation is required for the 40 hours of study and the 160 hours of supervised nursing practice?

For the 40 hours of study, it is appropriate to list the areas of planned study along with the estimated time in hours required to complete each area ,such that the total equals 40 hours . For example:

Nurse Practice Act – 2 hours, Rules and Regulations – 2 hours, CPR, – 6 hour class, relevant areas of nursing including physical assessment – 10 hours, patient/family teaching – 4 hours, infection control/BSI – 4 hours, mother/baby care – 12 hours. Study will be accomplished by reading appropriate journals, text books, videos, attending programs. Documentation of the area of study, hours invested, method of study and dates, to be retained by the reentry nurse for possible audit by the Board of Nursing .

A plan including a calendar of scheduled clinical assignments to complete the 160 hour clinical practice requirement along with the name and license number of the nurse preceptor, must accompany submission of the reentry packet. Make certain to add the number of hours to equal 160 . Remember , lunch time cannot be counted as part of the 160 hours. Also, please list the areas of review/study to be incorporated within the 160 hours of clinical practice. A free form list is fine. For example one would expect the inclusion of such areas of study as age appropriate care for the specific area of practice, nursing assessment, infection control, ethics, patient rights, etc. This list should be appropriate for, and specific to, the area of practice .